A LETTER FROM THE PRETENDER TO THE Grand Seignior.

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Occaſionally written upon his Aſſiſtance of the King of SWEEDEN in his Return to his own Dominions.

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THE

Pretender's Letter, &c.

Magnificent and Illuſtrious Emperor,

YOUR generous *Reception* of the *King* of *Sweden* in his Misfortunes, and the noble Support that he and his followers have met with during their Abode in your *Dominions*, have carry'd your Illuſtrious Character to the remoteſt Parts of the World, and render'd your Honour and Humanity exceedingly Valuable to all thoſe that judge Impartially of *Men* and *Actions*.

I muſt

I muſt own, indeed, that there are great Numbers of thoughtleſs and untractible People in theſe *Southern* Parts of *Europe*, that have no Conſideration for the Good or Ill of any Thing, but are acted purely by *Prejudice* or *Inclination*; or what is worſe, by *Intereſt* or *Deſign*; ſome of theſe, I believe, may have the *Folly* or *Inſolence* to Cenſure and Revile his *Swediſh Majeſty* for throwing himſelf upon your *Royal Protection*, without reflecting how natural it is for Oppreſt Princes to ſeek Relief, or that it was impoſſible for him any other Ways to eſcape a moſt *Implacable and Revengfull Enemy*.

But, Sir, as theſe are generally *Perſons* of *Rebellious* and *Antimonarchical Principles*; *Perſons*, who have a natural and inherent Averſion to their own, and conſeqnently to all other *Crown'd Heads*; no manner of Regard ought to be had to any of their *Suggeſtions*.

Thoſe that judge of Matters with *Diliberation* and *Impartiality*, have of quite different No-

Notions, and look upon his *Swediſh Majeſty's Retreat* into the *Turkiſh Territories* after his Defeat, to be the only Remedy, the Nature of his Caſe would allow: 'Twas from You, and only You this *diſtreſs'd Prince* could hope for Relief and Aſſiſtance: None but the *Invincible Emperour* of the *Turks* could have protected him againſt ſuch a powerful Enemy as the *Czar of Muſcovy*, nor none elſe been able to have furniſh'd him with an *Army* ſufficient to conduct him back in ſafety to his own *Dominions*.

The Knowledge I have *(moſt mighty Prince)* of this noble and generous *Action*, perſwades me to put this Letter into the Hands of one of your own Miniſters now at *Paris*, who has promis'd to give it ſafe Conduct to your *Majeſty*, in which I have taken the freedom to aſſure you, That there is no *Perſon* living more delighted with the Account than my ſelf.

I need not mention to you, *Great* Sir, that the Relief and Support of diſtreſs'd Princes, has always been eſteem'd as an Act of the high-

eſt

eſt Virtue; nor can I forget to acknowledge (with the utmoſt Gratitrde) the Immence Favours I have receiv'd from the *Great King of France* and his *Royal Family*.

You have been inform'd, doubtleſs, when my *Father* was trapan'd by *wicked Councellors*, into wrong Meaſures of *Government*, and forc'd by his own *Subjects* to leave his *Kingdom*, and my *Mother* to ſecure her ſelf from the madneſs of an *incens'd Rabble*, conſtrain'd to fly with me in her Arms; with what *Tenderneſs* and *Compaſſion* we were receiv'd at the *French Court*; nor need I mention to you, with what *Hazards*, and at what *Expenee* we have been there protected and ſupported for more then *Twenty Years*.

Nor is it to me and my Family only, that this Illuſtrious Monarch has extended his Royal Favours. His *Kingdom* is at this Day a general *Aſſylum* to *diſtreſs'd and injur'd Princes*; nor will his *unbounded Conqueſts*, and the *Glory* of his *Arms*, make his Name more famous to

Po-

Poſterity, than his *Princely Juſtice* and *Generoſity* in this particular.

This is no more (moſt invincible Emperour) then common Gratitude commands me to acknowledge, and in truth I preſume the recital of it muſt be as grateful for you to Read, as it is for me to Write; ſome Perſons of poor and degenerate Souls, I foreſee will be apt to cenſure me upon this Account, but ſuch I look upon to be utterly below the Notice, nay, even the Contempt of every *Brave* and *Generous Man*.

As to my ſelf, Sir, I ſhall now ſay very little, the preſent Condition of my Affairs renders it inconvenient for me to publiſh a *Narrative* of my *Injuries* and *Sufferings*; I ſhall therefore leave it to time, the Mother of Truth, to ſet *Matters* in their right Light. The *God we Chriſtians worſhip is a juſt and powerful God*, and as one of his *greateſt Prophets* wiſely expreſſes it, *Though Clouds und Darkneſs are round about him, yet Righteouſneſs and Judgment are the Habitation of his Throne*.

Indeed I think I may venture to add, without Offence to any Body, that I have been an Exile from my Cradle; and what's worse, baniſh'd upon meer Suggeſtions, and for Facts 'tis impoſſible I could be any ways concern'd in, which I muſt needs acknowledge gives me a great deal of *Encouragement* and *Conſolation*, and very much abates the Rigour of all my other Misfortunes. 'Tis true, the Calamities of my Native Country hang very heavy upon me; but then when I reflect I am no ways chargeable with them, I have no Grounds to blame my ſelf, or to ſubmit to thoſe wicked Cenſures that are ſo often caſt upon me.

What they are doing at the preſent *Negotiations*, ſhall be none of my Buſineſs, nor do I think it proper for me to enquire over ſtrictly.

This

This I ſolemnly determine, that no Conſiderations ſhall induce me to make any Attempt that may occaſion a Moment's Prolongation of *this cruel and bloody War*. I cannot ſay what my Friends may expect, or my Enemies ſuggeſt, but as far as I am Maſter of my ſelf, I am firmly reſolv'd not to do any thing below the Dignity of my *Anceſtors*, or to deſtroy or leſſen a *Character* which I look upon my ſelf to be intituled to both by the *Laws* of *God* and *Nature*.

And thus, Sir, I have open'd a Way to our future Correſpondence which ſhall be either diſcontinued or improv'd, as you think fit. All that I have more to add, is to beg Pardon for intruding ſo long upon you, to wiſh you all manner of Happineſs and Protection, and to aſſure you

you that I am (moſt Magnificent and Invincible Emperor)

Yours, &c.

Dated at *Paris* the 7th of *Auguſt*, N. S. 1712.

P.P.P.

FINIS.